

# Montana Medicaid and Healthy Montana Kids *Plus* Messenger

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## What are my Copayment Changes?

As a Montana Medicaid member, you have small copayments for medical and behavioral health visits. You have no copayments for preventive services such as health screenings. To align with Medicaid expansion, effective June 1, 2016, the State has made changes related to copayments. If you are a Medicaid member and your income falls below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level,

you will have a set copayment amount:

- \$4 for outpatient services
- \$75 for inpatient services
- \$4 for pharmacy— preferred brand
- \$8 for pharmacy— non-preferred brand drugs

If you are a Medicaid member with income at or above 100% of the Federal Poverty Level your copayment is 10% of the provider reimbursed amount. Except for pharmacy, which will be at:

- \$4 for pharmacy – preferred brand
- \$8 for pharmacy – non-preferred brand drugs

Providers are unable to take copayment from you at the time of service. Copayments are also limited to 5% of the combined household income, applied quarterly. As a member, you are still required to pay the provider the copayment that is owed. If a provider has a policy on collecting late payments from non-Medicaid members, that

same policy may be used for Medicaid members.

## What are my Eyeglass Benefits?

Adults, ages 21 or older, are eligible for eyeglasses every 365 days if the clinical criteria changes are met. If you have a diagnosed medical condition that prohibits the use of bifocals, Medicaid may cover two pairs of single vision eyeglasses every 365 days. Prior authorization is not required, but the provider must document your inability to use bifocals and request a verbal authorization from the State Program Officer. Children age 20 or under are eligible for eyeglasses every 365 days.

## What are my Dental Benefit Changes?

Effective January 1, 2016, if you are a Medicaid member, you will receive standard dental benefits up to an annual treatment cap of \$1,125 per benefit year (July 1–June 30). Excluded from the annual treatment cap are covered

diagnostic, preventive, denture, and anesthesia services. However, service limits apply. If you are an adult determined categorically eligible for Aged, Blind, and Disabled Medicaid, you are not subject to the annual dental treatment limit; however, service limits may apply. Children age 0–20 are not subject to the annual limit.

### **What is the Zika Virus?**

With all the news attention surrounding Zika virus, you may wonder what your risk is and what you need to know. Zika virus is transmitted by two specific species of mosquitoes to primates (monkeys and people). It was first discovered in 1947 in a primate from the Zika Forest in Uganda. Cases of Zika were largely confined to Africa until outbreaks were discovered in islands in the South Pacific and most recently Brazil. In the past year, the Zika virus has spread quickly from Brazil to South and Central America and Caribbean Islands. It has not reached the continental US yet, but may arrive in the southern US this summer.

Places where people are becoming infected right now are called Zika affected areas. You can find a list of areas at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention web site or DPHHS web site ([www.dphhs.mt.gov](http://www.dphhs.mt.gov)).

### **How is Zika virus transmitted?**

Zika virus is transmitted primarily by mosquitoes. Two types of mosquitoes are responsible, *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*. Fortunately, these mosquitoes cannot survive in Montana nor have they been found here. These mosquitos live in warmer climates and thrive in urban areas. People who travel to areas with Zika virus infected mosquitos can get the infection from those mosquitos.

Zika virus can also be transmitted by having sex with a man who is infected. At this time, no cases of sexual transmission from a woman to a man have been reported.

### **What are the symptoms of Zika virus infection?**

Most people who are infected by Zika virus will have no symptoms and will develop immunity. Some people will have a fever, rash, red eyes, and joint pain lasting from 4 to 10 days. These symptoms arise 3 to 14 days after being infected. Rarely, less than 1%, Zika virus infection has been associated with Guillain-Barre syndrome (a type of paralysis) or death. The unborn child of an infected woman can develop severe birth defects. There is no treatment for Zika virus infection.

### **Why should you be concerned about the Zika virus?**

You may be at risk of illness if you traveled to an affected area or had sex with an infected male partner. However, the greatest concern is that the virus can be passed from an infected pregnant woman to her unborn child. Infections in pregnant woman have caused early fetal loss, a severe birth defect called microcephaly (under developed skull), eye problems and other neurological problems.

### **What can you do to prevent Zika virus infections?**

The following are current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

If you are pregnant,

- Don't travel to a Zika affected area.
- Don't have sex with a man who traveled to a Zika affected area (or use condoms every time).

If you already traveled to a Zika affected area, and

- You are pregnant: ask your obstetrician for a Zika virus test and get frequent ultrasounds to monitor the development of the unborn child.
- You have symptoms: call your health care provider to get tested for Zika virus.
- You want to get pregnant: don't have sex until talking with your health care provider about how long to

wait before trying to get pregnant.

If you plan to travel to a Zika affected area,

- Use DEET, picardin and IR3535 containing insect repellants (safe for use during pregnancy)
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants
- Stay indoors
- Do not donate blood or organs until 28 days after returning home

If you are trying to get pregnant,

- Talk with your male partner about travel history to a Zika affected area.
- Consider talking with your health care provider about preventing pregnancy and Zika virus infection.

### **Can you get tested for Zika virus?**

Yes, lab testing is available to check whether you were recently infected and can be ordered by a health care provider. Tests are generally recommended for anyone with symptoms and/or who is pregnant and exposed within the last 12 weeks.

You can call Nurse First at 1-800-330-7847 anytime, day or night, to learn more about the Zika virus.

### **See Public Health Differently**

What comes to mind when you hear suicide, diabetes, falls, or cancer screening? Is it public health? Probably not. Public health typically brings to mind vaccinations, motor-vehicle safety, and control of infectious disease. It's time to see public health differently. Public health touches each of us from birth to death and is much more than traditionally thought.

"Public health is a partnership of individuals and organizations and all Montanans have a role," said State Medical Officer Dr. Greg Holzman. "We want Montanans to become more aware of issues that impact their daily lives so that they can improve their health and enhance their quality of life for themselves and loved ones."

Recently the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) introduced a new series of Health messages called "Health in the 406". These messages focus on various public health topics designed to raise awareness and help Montanans live healthier lives. To view these messages or subscribe to have these messages delivered to your inbox visit [www.healthinthe406.mt.gov](http://www.healthinthe406.mt.gov).

### **Key Contacts**

**Medicaid Member Help Line** for questions regarding benefits, copayments, or Passport to Health.

**1-800-362-8312**

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms>

**Nurse First Advice Line** for questions when you are sick, hurt, or have health questions.

**1-800-330-7847**

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/NurseFirst.aspx>

**Montana Relay Service** for the deaf or people hard of hearing.

**1-800-253-4091 or 711**

**Montana Public Assistance Help Line** for eligibility questions.

**1-888-706-1535**

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/OfficeofPublicAssistance.aspx>

**Transportation Center** for questions regarding travel or approval. **Call before you travel.**

**1-800-292-7114**

To find more information about covered and non-covered services, copayment information, and Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) services visit the member page at <http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms>.